

Camp Kilpatrick Replacement Project Breaks Ground By Kathleen Piché, Public Affairs Director



On September 12, 2014, Los Angeles County Board Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Third District, joined multiple LA County agencies in commemorating the replacement of Camp Vernon Kilpatrick detention facility for youth in Malibu. The camp, initially built in 1962 as military barracks, will be demolished in order to build a new facility.

The camp was made famous by the film “The Gridiron Gang,” which depicted the camp’s championship football team, the Mustangs, led by LA County Probation staff member and coach, Sean Porter, portrayed by the actor Dwayne “the Rock” Johnson in the movie. Sean Porter used sports to get detainees to change their attitudes and behavior and become “winners” in life.



Jerry Powers, Chief Probation Officer, spoke about the necessity of updating the facility and changing the model of treatment for detained youth—the “L.A. Model” will now be used—seeing youth in small groups with more personal attention for better outcomes.

Many county agencies are contributing skills and resources to making the new camp a success. Speakers from each department included: LACDMH District Chief, Karen Streich; Dr. Arturo Delgado, Superintendent, LA County Office of Education; Dr. Raymond Perry, Medical Director, Juvenile Court Services, Dept. of Health Services; Massood Eftekhari, Deputy Director, Department of Public Works; Laura Zucker, LA County Arts Commission; and Carol Biondi, Commissioner, LA County Commission for Children and Families.

